CHAPTER X—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

(i) Births, Deaths and Epidemics.

State of Health.

642. The state of Public Health during the year was satisfactory. The incidence of communicable diseases plague, small-pox and cholera was low; and as a preventive measure, 93,301 anti-plague inoculations, 688,577 anti-small-pox vaccinations and 339,424 anti-cholera inoculations were done. A total of 140,645 houses were fumigated. The total number of deaths reported during the year was 62,222, live-births registered was 131,592, the death-rate being 7·9 and the birth rate 16·8 respectively.

Small-pox.

643. Two thousand eight hundred and thirty one deaths were reported from small-pox. As a preventive measure, 688,577 vaccinations were done, of which 190,024 were primary and 498,553 re-vaccinations. Twenty-two places were declared infected with small-pox, while eight shandies including jatras were stopped for varying periods. The incidence was highest 97 in Kolar District and lowest, 11 in Hassan District.

Cholera.

644. One thousand one hundred and twenty-four deaths from cholera were reported during the year. Cholera was imported into Kolar District from the Thirupathi Hills (Madras Province) during the months of April, May and June 1950 through the pilgrims returning from Thirupathi Hills. Necessary precautions were taken. Three lakhs thirty nine thousand four hundred and twenty-four anti-cholera inoculations were performed. All the wells in the infected area and in the surrounding villages were chlorinated. The incidence was highest, forty-one in Mysore District and lowest, one in Chickmagalur District.

Malaria.

645. During the year, 15,315 deaths from malaria were reported, of which 2,460 occurred in malnad areas and 12,855 in maidan areas. The death-rate from Malaria was 281 in malnad areas and 202 in maidan areas as compared with 416 and 219 respectively in the previous year. The incidence was highest, 361 in Mandya District and lowest, 138 in Bangalore District.

Plague.

646. There were 722 deaths from plague during the year as against 1,881 in the previous year. The highest incidence, 38 was reported in Mysore District and the lowest,

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nil in Chikmagalur District. As a preventive measure, 93,301 anti-plague inoculations were done. Eighty-two places were declared infected with plague and 15 shandies were closed for varying periods.

Births.

647. During the year, 1,31,692 live-births were registered giving a birth rate of 16·7 per mille of population as against 17·1 in the previous year. The birth rate was highest (24·3) in Shimoga District and lowest, (11·8) in Hassan District. The number of still-births reported during the year was 2,833.

Infant Mortality.

648. There were 9,866 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infant mortality rate of 74·9 (65·7).

Deaths.

649. During the year, 66,222 deaths were reported from all causes and the death-rate was 8·4 (9·4). The highest death-rate (9·2) was reported from Kolar District and the lowest (6·0) from Hassan District.

650. During the year, 23·2 per cent of deaths from all causes was due to malaria.

General.

651. Full-time District Health Officers were working in the Districts of the State except in Tumkur where the public health work continued to be under the charge of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer.

652. In addition to the Municipal Health Organisations in Bangalore, Mysore and Davangere Cities and in the Kolar Gold Field, full-time rural health organisations under the Department were working in 111 places both in malnad and maidan areas. In these units, special intensive preventive work was undertaken in respect of diseases predominent in these areas, such as malaria.

653. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund donated a substantial supply of two lakhs lbs. of skim milk powder to the Mysore State in November 1950 for distribution free of charge to undernourished and other deserving groups of children up to the age of twelve years and to expectant and nursing mothers. The Deputy Director of Public Health was appointed as the Liaison Officer between the Mysore Government and the U.N. I.C.E.F. to be responsible on behalf of Government for the conduct of the scheme of free distribution of milk powder. During the two months of the year, 17 centres were started for distributing milk to children and other vulnerable groups. The taking

up of the D.D.T. spraying in the Visvesvaraya Canal Area using mobile transport in one Secondary-Centre, and ordinary transport in the rest of the area at a cost of Rs. 5,69,320 was sanctioned in August 1950.

654. Dr. J. C. Carter and Dr. R. B. Watson of the Rockefeller Foundation visited Thirthahalli and Agumbe Secondary Centres in March 1950.

(ii) Progress of Sanitation.

655. A comprehensive study of the residual effects of various strengths of D.D.T. and gammexane as adulticides was made at Hiriyur. Systematic bi-annual spleen surveys of most of the villages in the Health Unit areas were conducted during the year. With the Rockefeller Foundation shifting the headquarters of their Regional Office from Shanghai to Bangalore and the availability of the services of a number of their experts, the starting of the Malaria Investigation Centre at Saklespur was sanctioned. Preliminary entomological and malario metric surveys in areas not included in the D.D.T. spraying programme were started. Bureau of Malariology.

656. Measures against the control of epidemic diseases were undertaken in all the infected places. The chief work of the Bureau was in concerting measures to combat the epidemic of plague in the State. Bureau of Epidemiology.

657. Control of Guineaworm infection in the villages by biological measures was continued. One hundred and twenty-three step wells were examined for the presence of cyclopes, restocked 34 wells with fish and chlorinated wells. Guineaworm control.

658. The Bureau arranged the Health Section of the Mysore Dasara Exhibition as usual. The Bureau conducted a Health Inspectors' Training Class during the year. A batch of 50 students were selected and the theory part of the class was commenced in July 1950 and continued till the end of the official year. The Health propaganda unit toured for 105 days and covered nearly 3,380 miles with the fully equipped motor van. The unit screened 79 film-shows to an audience of about 58,000. Bureau of Health Education.

659. The three Municipal Maternity Homes in Bangalore City (1) Manavarthpet Maternity Home, (2) Seth Chellaram Maternity Home and (3), Sm. Unnamalai Ammal Maternity and Child Welfare work